



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

FBIS-AFR-91-182
Thursday
19 September 1991

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FBIS-AFR-91-182

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Central African Republic

Press Release on National Conference Proceedings

AB1809212591 Bangui Radiodiffusion-Television
Centrafricaine Radio in French 1800 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Press release issued in Bangui by the Presidency; date not given—read by unidentified speaker]

[Text] Following his important address to the nation on 31 August 1991 on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of his coming to power, President Andre Kolingba recently granted a series of audiences to opposition party leaders, thereby clearly demonstrating his belief in the policy of openness and dialogue. Thus, with a view toward regularly informing the Central African people on important issues affecting the life of the nation, the Presidency of the Republic hereby wishes to set the record straight and put the people's minds at ease regarding the national conference issue.

First, this important national debate is in no way being questioned because it stands out as a forum of national discussion on fundamental issues that call for dialogue.

Second, such a national debate requires painstaking preparation if social peace and national unity are to be safeguarded. It is, therefore, through consultations, which will henceforth be carried out on a regular basis between the government and the various bodies representing various shades of political opinion in the country, that a date will be fixed by mutual consent.

Third, all the parties on the scene must be guided by considerations of national interest, national cohesion, and the spirit of dialogue.

Minister, Party Leaders Meet; Rally Suspended

AB1909081091 Bangui Radiodiffusion-Television
Centrafricaine Radio in French 1800 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Text] The public security minister called a meeting at his department with the leaders of six political parties. This morning Ismaila Nimaga, the public security and

territorial administration minister, received the party leaders of the Central African People's Liberation Movement, the Alliance for Democracy and Progress, the Civic Forum, the Patriotic Front for Progress, the Movement for the Social Progress of Black Africa, and the Social Democratic Party.

The purpose of the meeting centered on the rally which was to have been held tomorrow, 18 September 1991, at the Bangui Municipal Stadium. After very fruitful consultations and exchange of views between the parties present, it was deemed appropriate to suspend the said rally. The minister of public security and territorial administration also took the opportunity to brief the party leaders on the rules and regulations to be approved in the near future for political parties which are currently finalizing their files.

The meeting, which was attended by Raymond Boniface, secretary general of the Public Security and Territorial Administration Ministry, was conducted in an atmosphere of perfect understanding.

Roadblocks Lifted Except Customs, Border Posts

AB1809202091 Bangui Radiodiffusion-Television
Centrafricaine Radio in French 1800 GMT 17 Sep 91

["Direction" on lifting roadblocks issued in Bangui on 11 September by President Andre Kolingba]

[Excerpts] As of 11 September, all roadblocks are lifted throughout the national territory except at checkpoints imposed by the Customs and Excise Department and at the country's borders. [passage omitted]

The minister and the secretary of state for security and the presidential advisor for security are to enforce the present instruction, which abrogates all other previous instructions, from 11 September.

Signed in Bangui, 11 September 1991
Andre Kolingba

Ethiopia

Eritrean Government Submits Memorandum to UNGA

EA1809160691 Asmera Voice of the Broad Masses
of Eritrea in Arabic 0530 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Excerpt] The Provisional Government of Eritrea has submitted a memorandum to the 46th session of the UN General Assembly [UNGA] opening today. The memorandum clearly explains the constituents of the Eritrean nation and defines it as an entity. The memorandum also states that the Eritrean people were criminally annexed by Ethiopia against their wishes to (?satisfy) U.S. interests. The memorandum points out that the international (?community) stood idly by when the Haile Selassie regime went ahead to annex Eritrea [words indistinct]. The memorandum explains that in spite of having managed to restore their suppressed rights and usurped freedoms following a bitter and bloody war against enemies supported and [word indistinct] by the superpowers, the Eritrean people wish to reaffirm their freedom legally by means of a referendum to be supervised by the UN. [passage omitted]

Somalia

Ali Mahdi's Speech on Mogadishu Events Reported

EA1909111591 Mogadishu Radio Mogadishu
in Somali 1700 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Text] Mr. Ali Mahdi Mohamed, president of the Somali Republic, addressed the nation today about the problems which recently affected the capital, Mogadishu, and the ensuing heavy destruction of life and property. Mr. Mahdi first expressed condolences to all Somalis affected by the Mogadishu fighting, in which many Somalis died, were wounded, and lost property. He directed condolences particularly to those whose relatives and friends were harmed in the fighting. He prayed to God to give them solace and comfort and to admit those who died in paradise. Mr. Ali Mahdi, president of the Somali Republic, said he was deeply saddened by the concern felt by the Somali citizens, who had hoped to live in peace and stability, which could have led them to progress, and at the same time have a government able to help them forget the problems experienced during the era of the dictatorial regime.

Referring to the victories scored by the forces of the groups, particularly the people's rebellion led by the

United Somali Congress [USC] which precipitated the dictatorial regime's overthrow, he said many heroes had sacrificed their precious lives in this legitimate struggle. The aim of these heroes had been to bring about change based on justice and to feel the gentle breeze of freedom. This was made possible, the president said, by virtue of the togetherness and cooperation of the USC and the aspirations of the forces opposed to the former regime.

It is regrettable, however, that although the USC has scored tangible victories, those who won them have taken up arms and shed their own blood. Whenever a misunderstanding or dispute used to arise within the organization, the best way of solving it had been through peaceful consultations, President Ali Mahdi said. The president added that it was regrettable that two brothers who were fighting shoulder to shoulder yesterday to defend their people should now take up arms to kill one another.

President Mahdi added that last week's events had attracted international criticism of the USC. This, the president said, was because the unity of the organization was conducive to establishing a national government to help the Somali people overcome the difficult situation they are in.

Mr. Ali Mahdi Mohamed, president of the Somali Republic, said it was important to bear in mind that only the enemy of the Somali people, the dictator Siad Barre, who often launches bandit attacks on the Somali people, could benefit from misunderstandings within the USC. It is he who massacres women, children, and the weak. The president drew attention to an attack Siad Barre had recently launched in the Upper Juba region, particularly on the town of Baidoba.

The president said that to restore its honor at home and abroad, the USC must take the following steps: consolidate its unity and cooperation; solve all misunderstandings through dialogue and in a spirit of brotherhood; and launch an immediate and united attack on dictator Siad Barre, who is a threat to the Somali nation's existence.

President Ali Mahdi Mohamed thanked the reconciliation committee of the Somali communities, the USC executive committee, the elders, religious people, and Somali intellectuals, who have performed such a great role in resolving the recent problems besetting Mogadishu. He urged the Somali people to maintain their unity and togetherness.

Government Praises Baltic States' Independence

*MB1809123091 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1023 GMT 18 Sep 91*

[Text] Pretoria Sept 18 SAPA—The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, on Wednesday extended the South African Government's congratulations to Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia on their admission to the United Nations. In a statement, he said the decision was the culmination of the striving of these states for independence, freedom and democracy. "The South African Government wishes the peoples of the republics of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania peace, prosperity and success in their endeavours in the future."

Poland Signs Trade Agreement; Sanctions Lifted

*MB1809175091 Johannesburg South African
Broadcasting Corporation Network in English
1600 GMT 18 Sep 91*

[Text] South Africa and Poland have signed a trade agreement in Warsaw. The agreement provides for the lifting of trade sanctions against South Africa, and Polish products are to be exempt from surcharge.

Botha Greets French Minister, Delegation

*MB1909121591 Johannesburg South African
Broadcasting Corporation Network in English
1100 GMT 19 Sep 91*

[Text] France is eager to become South Africa's leading trading partner and the composition of a visiting French delegation is an indication of the seriousness of its resolve. This was said by the leader of that delegation, the French minister of industry and foreign trade, Mr. Dominique Strauss-Kahn. Speaking on his arrival at Jan Smuts Airport this morning Mr. Strauss-Kahn said that France, one of South Africa's fiercest critics for many years, intended becoming one of this country's strongest supporters during the reform process.

Mr. Strauss-Kahn said South Africa could play a leading role in the development of the rest of Africa and that it would need assistance from France, already established on this continent for decades. His visit is the first by a French minister in 15 years and his delegation includes leading figures in the French banking and industrial world. The South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Pik Botha, was at the airport to receive the delegation.

ANC Military Wing Suspends Recruitment

*MB1809133091 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY
in English 18 Sep 91 p 1*

[Report by Tim Cohen: "Umkhonto Stops Recruiting"]

[Text] The ANC's [African National Congress] armed wing Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation; MK] had suspended recruitment because of insufficient resources, Umkhonto commander Tokoyo Sexwale said yesterday.

Sexwale said the decision, which is contrary to a resolution taken at the ANC's July congress, was not a result of discussions between government and the ANC.

He said the decision was taken purely for practical reasons. Umkhonto had many applicants but lacked the resources to incorporate them.

Umkhonto leaders have often insisted that they would continue recruitment drives.

Most recently, at a conference last month, Umkhonto commander Joe Modise announced an expanded operations plan.

Government has argued that recruitment of Umkhonto members should end in line with the Pretoria Minute, in terms of which the ANC had agreed to suspend "armed actions ... and related activities".

The dispute was partially resolved by the D.F. Malan accord this year where the parties agreed this meant the ANC would not infiltrate men or materiel and would not create underground structures.

The D.F. Malan accord specifically did not mention recruitment, Sexwale said.

He said the training of Umkhonto cadres would continue and would be improved.

He said Umkhonto's decision was not related to discussions of the ANC/government working groups. Nor had Umkhonto given any undertaking in this regard to President F.W. de Klerk during discussions before the signing of the peace accord.

Ramaphosa Says De Klerk Government 'Blundering'

*MB1809175891 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1750 GMT 18 Sep 91*

[Text] Durban Sept 18 SAPA—All-party talks for a non-racial constitution in South Africa could start before the end of the year, African National Congress [ANC] Secretary-General Mr Cyril Ramaphosa said in Durban on Wednesday. Speaking at an Institute for a Democratic Alternative for South Africa forum, he said the ANC wanted to "get moving" to restore stability in the country.

An all-party congress before the end of the year would be a "Christmas present" to all South Africans.

Mr Ramaphosa said: "The ANC's approach to the all-party congress is grounded on a principle of consensus that will enable us to take the process forward".

The organisation's commitment to negotiations was resolute, despite pitfalls and drawbacks, specifically the Inkatha funding scandal, he said. The scandal highlighted the urgency for constitutional negotiations to start.

The first step towards negotiations was the peace accord signed this weekend.

"Our country was given a birth certificate this weekend. The accord signified the birth of a nation."

Mr Ramaphosa said the accord was not "magic", but he was confident it was the beginning of the peace process and it had to be given a chance.

"Peace should not be imposed by violence or intimidation, but rather attained through heart-to-heart agreement at grassroots."

More than 25 people have died since the pact was signed this weekend.

National Peace Initiative officials say it will take time to implement the accord. Police said on Wednesday 24 officers had been suspended, of whom seven had been charged in connection with alleged misconduct related to the violence.

Mr Ramaphosa said the next step would be a patriotic front conference, hopefully at the end of October.

The patriotic front—a "parliament of the people in the making"—would represent about 18 million South Africans.

The front would address an agenda for the all-party congress, an interim government and a constituent assembly.

The demand for an interim government was urgent as State President F.W. de Klerk had conceded he was not qualified to run the country during the transition to a new government.

"His suggestion to agree to interim arrangements is unsatisfactory in that co-option of anti-apartheid forces becomes a real issue.

"The demand for a sovereign interim government of national unity stands. The legitimacy of the government is crucial. The legitimacy and the sovereignty of a government reside in the people of South Africa as a whole."

He said an interim government would remove all remaining obstacles to negotiations; stop the violence as it would have the political will and commitment to do so; control the security forces; run elections; control the broadcasting service; begin the process of reconciliation; restore faith in government; and repeal remaining apartheid legislation.

"We maintain that De Klerk's government is blundering at the helm. If his government continues piloting this ship, we will all end up like the Oceanos," said Mr Ramaphosa in reference to a Greek cruise liner that recently sank off the Transkei coast.

Plans Patriotic Front Conference

MB1809175291 Johannesburg South African Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1600 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] The ANC [African National Congress] has reaffirmed its commitment to negotiation and said that if everything goes according to plan, a multiparty conference will be held before the end of the year. ANC Secretary General Cyril Ramaphosa said in Durban today that the peace agreement at the weekend ushered in the first phase of negotiation and that next would be a patriotic front conference which the ANC hopes to hold next month. The patriotic front would address issues such as an agenda for a multiparty conference. Mr. Ramaphosa said the ANC wanted to get moving on the restoration of stability in South Africa.

Notes Demand for Interim Government

MB1809195091 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1819 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Durban Sept 18 SAPA—The demand for an interim government was both urgent and valid in South Africa as State President F.W. de Klerk had conceded that he was not qualified to run the country during the transitional period, ANC [African National Congress] secretary general, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa said on Wednesday. Speaking in Durban, Mr Ramaphosa said Mr de Klerk's record had not given the ANC confidence that he would be able to manage the transition period.

"His suggestion to agree to interim arrangements is unsatisfactory in that co-option of anti-apartheid forces becomes a real issue.

"The demand for a sovereign interim government of national unity stands. The legitimacy of the government is crucial. The legitimacy and the sovereignty of a government reside in the people of South Africa as a whole," said Mr Ramaphosa.

Mr Ramaphosa explained that an interim government would: remove all remaining obstacles (to negotiations); stop the violence as it would have the political will and commitment to do so; control the security forces; run elections; control the broadcasting service; begin the process of reconciliation; restore faith in government; and repeal remaining apartheid legislation.

Mr Ramaphosa said the call for an interim government came from several organisations who did not want to be on a "political Oceanos whose captain was blundering at the helm and abandoning ship leaving the passengers behind".

"We maintain that De Klerk's government is blundering at the helm. If his government continues piloting this ship, we will all end up like the Oceanos."

An interim government of national unity stood a better chance of steering the country through the stormy waters, Mr Ramaphosa added.

Says ANC Opts for Mixed Economy

MB1809194891 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1827 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Durban Sept 18 SAPA—An ANC [African National Congress] government would not sacrifice economic growth for ideology in a new South Africa and would ensure growth through a mixed economy, said the organisation's secretary general, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa in Durban on Wednesday. He said apartheid ideology in South Africa had been used to "drive our economy into the ground".

The ANC would strive for a mixed economy with some state intervention. Even the US assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Mr Herman Cohen had submitted that a new South African Government would not be able to correct the country's imbalances without state intervention.

Mr Ramaphosa added that the market would not be able to fully correct all apartheid's injustices.

State intervention included affirmative action and encouraging foreign investment. Mr Ramaphosa said a number of potential investors were already asking the ANC to tell them when they could begin investing in South Africa.

"We believe with our mixed economy policies we will attract foreign investment and growth and unlock a whole range of resources that will ensure economic growth."

Responding to a question on trade unions in South Africa, Mr Ramaphosa said the trade union movement should be independent of all political parties, including the ANC.

"Democracy can only be full blown if trade unions are given their independent rights," said Mr Ramaphosa, the former secretary general of the National Union of Mineworkers of SA [South Africa].

He said challenges to the government, such as the union movement's challenge to the present government's VAT [value-added tax] system, was precisely what the ANC would expect from unions in a future government. An ANC government would, however, be more sympathetic to the views of working people.

Hani Says Umkhonto 'Would Not Be Dismantled'
MB1809174691 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
18 Sep 91 p 6

[Report by Esther Waugh: "Umkhonto Will Not Dissolve, Says Hani"]

[Text] The ANC's [African National Congress] armed wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation] (MK) was not a private army and would not be dismantled, Chief of Staff Chris Hani.

His remarks are likely to continue tensions between the Government and the ANC.

Reacting to a statement by President de Klerk that MK was contrary to the spirit of the peace accord signed on Saturday, Mr Hani said calls for the dismantling of Umkhonto we Sizwe were attempts to marginalise it.

"We will not be dismantled, and we will not be marginalised."

He added: "The arms caches belong to us and we will not surrender them to an undemocratically elected government."

Umkhonto we Sizwe would consider discussing with an interim government the handing over of these caches.

Mr Hani said MK was not a private army but the liberators of the oppressed, and could therefore not be construed as a private army.

The ANC and Umkhonto we Sizwe subscribed to the principle that no political armies should exist in a democratic society, but South Africa was not a democratic country, he said.

In terms of the D F Malan agreement reached between the ANC and the Government in February, the movement agreed that no political armies should exist.

Referring to Mr de Klerk's statement, Mr Hani said: "I am concerned about him pursuing that line of thinking."

He added that "the issue of MK" was a subject of ongoing negotiations in terms of the Pretoria Minute and the D F Malan agreement with the Government.

"We know that nothing has been finalised, but we also know there are binding agreements. We are still sticking to the suspension of military operations and related activities."

Contrary to the Government, the ANC argues that "related activities" did not refer to recruitment and training.

In terms of the D F Malan agreement, both sides agreed there would be no attacks by means of armaments, firearms, explosive or incendiary devices, infiltration of men and materiel, the creation of underground structures, statements inciting violence, threats of armed action, and training inside South Africa.

Mr Hani said these activities were clearly defined and centred on MK not infiltrating men and materiel as long as the agreement was in place.

MK's activities were the subject of discussions by a joint ANC/Government working group set up in terms of the Pretoria Minute and by a liaison committee (established after the D F Malan agreements to ensure the implementation of the agreement).

Mr Hani said MK was clearly not part of the peace accord.

"I can't see why MK is being dragged in. We have in all frankness not been involved in acts of violence because we are bound by the Pretoria Minute.

"Furthermore, even the D F Malan agreement does not say MK should be dismantled."

The joint working group agreed that because Umkhonto we Sizwe was no longer an unlawful organisation, membership was not in violation of any of the provisions of Paragraph 3 of the Pretoria Minute, and the letter and spirit of the Pretoria Minute as whole.

He said Umkhonto we Sizwe was a lawful organisation which had to reorganise itself since its unbanning.

"We are open. We held our conference in Venda, we adopted resolutions which were made public."

Mr Hani said the military wing's command and control were being strengthened in line with the D F Malan agreement which stated that it was vital that control over such cadres and arms be exercised to ensure that no armed actions or related activities occur.

MK was bound by the peace accord, and its national conference reconfirmed its commitment to negotiations.

Defense Minister Reacts to Hani
MB1909125091 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1106 GMT 19 Sep 91

[By Dirk van Zyl]

[Text] Pretoria Sept 19 SAPA—The minister of defence and of communications, Mr Roelf Meyer, has expressed his pleasure that Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation, MK,—African National Congress, ANC] chief of staff Mr Chris Hani had confirmed—in a newspaper interview earlier this week—his underwriting of the D. F. Malan accord. Mr Meyer pointed out to political and military correspondents in a few public remarks during a briefing on Wednesday night that an important aspect of this accord was that all arms had to be brought under control.

The defence minister expressed his disappointment that neither Mr Hani nor MK commander Mr Joe Modise had been involved in Saturday's peace initiative.

The ministers of law and order, Mr Hernus Kriel, of justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, and himself had all been among those present, he pointed out. "I hope they (Mr Hani and Mr Modise) support the accord. It is clear he (Mr Hani) is not aware of the contents of the accord."

Mr Hani said in the newspaper interview MK (the ANC's armed wing) was not a private army and would not be dismantled. Reacting to a statement by President F. W. de Klerk that MK was contrary to Saturday's peace accord, Mr Hani said calls for MK's dismantling were attempts to marginalise it.

ANC Spokesman on Indemnity Process, Talks

MB1809165091 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY
in English 18 Sep 91 p 2

[Report by Patrick Bulger: "Indemnity Process 'Nears End'"]

[Text] Government and the ANC [African National Congress] were in the "twilight" of the indemnity process for political prisoners and exiles, ANC national executive committee member Matthew Phosa said yesterday.

Phosa, who serves on the government-ANC working group on political prisoners, said there were two remaining categories of political prisoners—those who caused death and those convicted for mass-related activities.

He said government had been inconsistent in that it already released prisoners who had caused death but was refusing to release prisoners such as McGoo's Bar bomber Robert McBride and five others.

In one particular case, an Umkhonto [we Sizwe—Spear of the Nation, ANC military wing] cadre who caused death was not being released because of a motor car theft he committed during the course of his military operation.

Phosa said the ANC had a list of 900 people serving time for mass-related activities in July. Since then many had been released but he had been battling for two months to get a list of those released.

He said the prisoner issue remained an obstacle to negotiations. However, the ANC wanted an interim government and would go ahead with attempts to secure such a government at an all party congress.

Phosa said he expected government to free both McBride and rightwing mass murderer Barend Strydom as it had consistently categorised them together and had moved them from Death Row at the same time.

He said hundreds of political prisoners had gone free and thousands of exiles had returned and that the process was now nearing completion.

ANC Describes State's 'Different Kind of War'

MB1909072191 Johannesburg MAYIBUYE in English
Aug 91 p 1

[Editorial: "A Different Kind of War"]

[Text] A different kind of war. This is how Sergeant Felix Ndimene's SADF [South African Defense Force] commanders described their new mission when the regime unbanned the ANC [African National Congress] and other organisations.

Ndimene's colleagues in the SADF Special Forces are now employed to attack train commuters and wage war against African communities. After their ruthless operations they retreat back to SADF bases in Phalaborwa and other areas.

Huge sums have been paid to Inkatha by the SAP [South African Police] to destabilise and destroy the ANC. This baby-sitting is supposed "to show everyone that (Buthelezi) has a strong base", says Major Louis Botha of the security police. It is critical, "especially if one considers the shrinking Inkatha membership figures".

The revelations by the NEW NATION and WEEKLY MAIL newspapers bring out in bold relief the De Klerk administration's strategy:

- urban organisations and be seen to be talking;
- sow mayhem and destruction in black communities and destabilise the ANC; and
- promote the state's surrogates through heavy funding, propaganda and violence.

This is what the ANC has said all along. And there was a tendency to treat its statements and demands as fabrications based on selfish political interests. Vlok and Malan simply issued stock denials. Instead the ANC itself was blamed for not being interested in negotiations. Thus was the matter often laid to rest.

Now there is more uncontested proof. The hot air from the Union Buildings does not detract from the criminal fact. For those who had cause to doubt, the jigsaw puzzle comes nearly together:

- why the attackers on communities, trains and beer-halls are not being arrested;
- why the timing always has the effect of destabilising ANC campaign and scuttling peace initiatives;
- why a simple issue such as the carrying of dangerous weapons is made so complicated;
- to what level some senior Inkatha leaders have stooped in order to become "major players";
- how this blind ambition dovetails splendidly with state strategy.

Taxpayers' money is being used to assist a party implicated in violence and to pay for the training and upkeep of mass murderers. It is a gigantic political scandal by any standards.

The ministers responsible for this have to go. An independent judicial commission must investigate these activities. The covert units must be publicly disbanded. Otherwise the church and business peace initiative on which many had pinned their hopes will be meaningless.

It is time responsible South Africans closed ranks to defend the peace process. Soldiers and police who do not support violence must be encouraged to come out into the open. We ignore the present dangers at our own peril.

Government Approves Transkei 1991/92 Budget

*MB1809193891 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1831 GMT 18 Sep 91*

[Text] Umtata Sept 18 SAPA—The South African Government has approved a R[and]3.9 billion budget for the Transkei for the 1991/92 financial year—an 18 percent increase on last year's allocation. Education and social pensions are the primary targets of the improved budget and support budget.

The homeland's finance minister, Brig E.R.G. Keswa, revealed the figures in his budget speech on Wednesday. The announcement comes after a six months battle by the Transkei to get Pretoria to approve the budget.

Explaining the delay, Brig Keswa said there had been a need to work out an agreement with South Africa that would guide future financial relations. An agreement was finally signed on August 26.

"It is envisaged that this structural adjustment agreement will enable the Transkei to move away from the present ad hoc budgeting arrangement to one based on sound economic and planning principles."

He said the Transkei in turn accepted responsibility for a systematic and upgraded development planning process.

The budget was an 18 percent increase on last year's allocation. The biggest slice—R879 million—would go to the Department of Education.

Brig Keswa said more schools would be built and the school-book supply would be increased.

The rest of the budget would be used to address issues such as improving employment, maintaining social stability and attending to backlogs in basic services.

In addition to the support budget of R1.1 billion, a further R249 million had been made available for social pensions. This would increase bi-monthly pension payments from R285 to R450.

The need to introduce policies to promote private sector activity as well as the involvement of local communities in their own upliftment was a priority, he said. He also

announced the Transkei would phase out general sales tax and would implement 10 percent value-added tax at the end of September, in line with South Africa. Brig Keswa said further financial discussions between the Transkei and Pretoria were underway to address salary parity for civil servants.

19 Sep Press Review on Current Events, Issues

MB1909124491

[Editorial Report]

THE STAR

"The End Conscription Campaign has gained a most unlikely ally, Boerestaat [Boer Homeland] Party leader Robert van Tonder has called on all 'Boer sons' to refuse to serve in the South Africa Defence Force on the grounds that white youngsters should not act as 'referees' in township conflicts; should not be called upon to shoot their own people as in Ventersdorp; and should not fight to defend borders which the Government promptly gives away," notes Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 19 September in a page 16 editorial. Van Tonder's reasoning is "specious and at base racist, but his call does serve to highlight the extraordinarily anomalous position of the SADF [South African Defense Force] in transitional South Africa. The all-white call-up will have no place in the new South Africa, and there is no reason for retaining it up until the last moment." Defense Minister Roelf Meyer should abolish the call-up. "Then the discussions could begin as to the composition of a future nonracial defence force—a permanent rather than conscripted force, one hopes—without the encumbrance of the long white shadow now hanging over the SADF."

BUSINESS DAY

Government 'Dithering' Over Tax System—Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 19 September in a page 12 editorial states: "Government must stop dithering. South Africans of all persuasions and occupations are entitled to tax certainty. If VAT [value-added tax] has to be finetuned and adjusted, it must be done after the tax system is in place and after its effects have been properly evaluated. Now is not the time for political trade-offs, it is the time for getting on with the changeover."

SOWETAN

Crime Spills Over Into White Areas—"The choked concern over crime that has now spilled over into mainly white areas is viewed with cynical amusement in the townships," declares a page 8 editorial in Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 19 September. "How much easier it would have been to solve the problem today if it had been addressed 20 years ago where it was most prevalent—in the black townships." "Simply throwing 10,000 extra policemen at the problem is not going to help much. A positive development now is that more South Africans are beginning to realise that crime knows no colour."

Angola

Dos Santos Comments on U.S. Aid to UNITA

MB1809201691 Luanda Radio Nacional Network
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Report on news conference by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos in Washington on 18 September by Aires Walter—italicized passages recorded]

[Text] Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the People's Republic of Angola, has requested in Washington that U.S. Government's financial assistance to UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] should be converted into humanitarian aid. Speaking at a news conference today, the Angolan head of state said that the \$30 million should be used to assist war-displaced and war-crippled persons. He said: Angola needs aid to cope with the demobilization of more than [figure indistinct] troops. He added that he has come to the United States to discuss economic matters.

[Dos Santos] *We have had the opportunity to discuss economic matters. We have expressed our great concern over the fact that Angola is a victim of economic restrictions preventing the access to Eximbank [Export-Import Bank] credits. Obviously, we requested that existing legislation should be reviewed to enable U.S. businessmen to obtain funds from U.S. banks in order to operate in Angola.*

We have also expressed our concern over Congress' covert aid to UNITA. We know that \$30 million is to be granted. We have requested that that amount should be converted into overt aid for other Angolans. As you know we have a number of people who have been afflicted by the war. There are displaced and maimed persons, orphans, and abandoned children who need aid. If it is not possible to convert that aid, it should be canceled.

After his introductory remarks, the president of the People's Republic of Angola answered journalists questions.

[Crespo] Mario Crespo, Portuguese Television. Mr. President, you have said that [words indistinct] what sort of regime is in power in Angola today? Is it socialist? Does it still espouse Marxist ideals? Is it capitalist?

[Dos Santos] *Our regime is no longer guided by Marxist theories. We have adopted a program consisting of five political principles that are contained in the constitution, namely national independence, defense of territorial integrity, freedom, solidarity, and justice. Moreover, we have introduced a number of reforms, and right now we believe that we are going through a transition period. We are moving from a centrally planned economy to an economic system which is managed by [words indistinct] offer and demand.*

Another journalist wanted to know whether President Jose Eduardo dos Santos knows who will win the elections in Angola and what are the views of the United States in that regard.

[Dos Santos] *That is [words indistinct] it is difficult to predict who will win or lose the elections, but our impression is that the United States intends to take a stand based on the election results. [Words indistinct] in any event, the U.S. Government received the president of the People's Republic of Angola, [words indistinct] interest in assisting in the process of national reconciliation, and elections [words indistinct] biased position. Assistance [should be] given to all Angolans regardless of its biased position. These are signs of an evolution of the U.S. Government policy on Angola [words indistinct] above party politics.*

Meanwhile, talks continue with senior political and economic officials. President Jose Eduardo dos Santos leaves for New York state tomorrow where he will stay for a few hours before returning home.

2,300 FAPLA Soldiers Confined in Benguela

MB1809210091 Luanda Radio Nacional Network
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Excerpts] At least 2,300 FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] soldiers have already been confined in Benguela Province's (Culongo) area. Major Antonio Carvalho de Betencourt, the government representative in the regional verification and control subcommission, disclosed this at the 13th session of Benguela Province's People's Assembly held recently in Lobito city.

Maj. Betencourt said that he did not have exact figures of FALA [Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] soldiers who have been confined in the province. He said, however, that nearly 700 FALA members have been confined in Chingongo area, 12 km from Monte Belo commune. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, the disarming of landmines continues in various parts of Benguela Province. The operation is being carried out by joint FAPLA and FALA sapper teams between Monte Belo and Balombo District. Afterward, the teams will disarm landmines between the capital of Bocoio District and Vale Guerra settlement.

Madagascar

Workers Reportedly Heed Opposition Strike Call

AB1909114091 Paris AFP in English 1615 GMT
18 Sep 91

[Text] Antananarivo, Sep 18 (AFP)—The capital of Madagascar ground largely to a halt on Wednesday as a substantial majority of workers heeded a call by opposition parties to make it a "dead city" for the day. All

stores closed and public markets were deserted. Bus drivers stayed at home, meaning there was no public transport.

Police and paramilitary gendarmes were stationed at key intersections and patrolled the city centre, where a coalition of 16 opposition groups has been staging mass rallies for three months to make President Didier Ratsiraka stand down after 16 years in power.

Radio Madagascar reported slight scuffles in some districts and at Andravoahangy market between residents putting up roadblocks and private car drivers ignoring the opposition campaign.

Opposition sources said negotiations were continuing however with Prime Minister Guy Razanamasy on forming an interim administration and arranging general elections.

Mozambique

Renamo Leader To Meet Mediators in Rome

MB1809200291 Maputo Radio Maputo in English
1800 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Excerpts] The presence of Zimbabwean troops in Mozambique is no longer considered by the Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] rebels as a problem in the peace process. The Renamo representative in Lisbon, Manuel Frank, said the presence of the Zimbabweans is no longer a substantive issue because there is a tacit understanding between Renamo and the government, but (these) troops would be withdrawn as part of an eventual cease-fire agreement. The Renamo spokesman said the Zimbabwean troops were not a problem because one of the conditions of a cease-fire would be the withdrawal of all foreign troops.

Zimbabwean troops are in Mozambique at the request of the government and are confined to the Beira and Limpopo corridors which serve Zimbabwe as routes to the sea. [passage omitted]

Renamo has also said that its leader, Afonso Dhlakama, has finally agreed to go to Rome to see the Italian and Catholic Church officials who have been mediating in the peace process for more than a year. According to a source close to the peace talks, Dhlakama had until now refused to meet the mediators in Rome, insisting instead that they go to meet him at a hideout in the bush in the middle of Mozambique. The mediators had not accepted this. Renamo has not said exactly when Dhlakama will go to Rome, but a spokesman said it could be this week or next.

Archbishop Tutu Comments on Efforts To End War

MB1909075291 London BBC World Service in English
0630 GMT 19 Sep 91

[From the "African News" program]

[Text] African church leaders have announced that they are stepping up efforts to end the 15-year civil war in Mozambique. The South African Anglican Church leader, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, said the All-African Council of Churches had already begun talks with the country's president, Mr. Joaquim Chissano, and will be approaching the right-wing Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] rebels.

Archbishop Tutu who was speaking in the Mozambican capital, Maputo, said the council was deeply distressed by continuing loss of life in the country and was ready to do anything which would bring about a cease-fire. Since the church council decided in 1987 to make conflict in Africa one of its main concerns, it has worked to end violence in Angola, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Liberia, and South Africa.

Swaziland

Soldiers Allege Corruption, Torture in Army Camp

MB1909071391 Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER
in English 19 Sep 91 p 1

[Report by Phinda Zwane: "It's Torture, Corruption—Army Men Complain"]

[Text] Two members of the Umbutfo [regiments] Swaziland Defence Force yesterday came to THE SWAZI OBSERVER offices to complain about the alarming corruption and torture at the Nsingizini Army Camp in the north.

The two soldiers who asked for anonymity for fear of victimisation charged that senior army officers (lieutenants) stationed at the camp allegedly torture and mistreat the privates.

They also claimed that the officers at the camp severely punish privates on any alleged offence for months and torture them in the guard rooms.

Part of the punishments, the pair claimed, was attending to the vegetable garden at the camp.

The low-ranking army men also claimed that at one stage, the officers electrocuted the entire fence around the camp to restrict the movement of privates within the camp. They also charged that on petty offences, the lieutenants note out fines of more than E [emalangeni]100, the money which they allegedly keep for themselves.

Asked to comment on the allegations of torture and corruption, Army Commander Brigadier Fonono Dube expressed surprise and concern.

Brigadier Fonono Dube expressed disappointment over the failure by some soldiers to use the right channels when reporting any complaint in the army.

Zimbabwe

Mugabe's Sanctions Stance Queried at Trade Talks

MB1909104991 Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY*
in English 19 Sep 91 p 1

[Report by Michael Hartnack: "SA [South Africa] Gets Tough With Harare at Trade Talks"]

[Text] Harare—Economic sources believe that senior SA [South African] officials at talks on Tuesday to renew a preferential trade treaty between Zimbabwe and SA [South Africa] confronted the Harare delegation over President Robert Mugabe's stance on sanctions.

The negotiations opened in Pretoria on updating the most-favoured nation trade treaty Mugabe inherited from Ian Smith's Rhodesian government.

Sources in Harare believed the SA negotiators told the Zimbabweans that to finalise a new trade agreement, Mugabe would have to rescind his 11-year ban on government contact at ministerial level.

At the one-day meeting, senior public servants from SA's Commerce and Foreign Affairs departments apparently sanctioned and his expected demand at the October Commonwealth summit in Harare for SA to remain isolated.

Last month Mugabe told African socialists meeting in Harare that he had "no choice but to insist on the maintenance of economic sanctions and other forms of pressure against SA ... until such time as an administration that does not owe its existence to apartheid is in place".

The Zimbabwean delegation was headed by the deputy secretary for trade relations and export promotions in the ministry of industry and commerce.

Sources believe it significant the six-member team included an under-secretary from the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement, and a law officer from the attorney-general's office.

SA is a major destination for Zimbabwe's processed farm exports, particularly textiles, and the prime source of vital inputs for its agricultural industry.

Economists believe the Zimbabweans told their hosts they were relying on expansion of the present

R[and]2bn [billion]-a-year trade relations with SA to bring the current R42bn five-year structural adjustment programme to fruition.

The existing agreement, dating from 1964, sets tariff rebates at levels rendered unrealistic by inflation, and its lists of rebatable trade items need revision because of economic expansion. No date has been set for the next round of talks.

Union Urges CSFR Not To Expel Journalist Body

MB1809093591 Dakar *PANA* in English 1835 GMT
17 Sep 91

[Text] Harare, 17 Sep (ZIANA/PANA)—The Zimbabwean Union of Journalists (ZUJ) has appealed to the Czech minister of interior, Jan Langos, to rescind his government's decision to expel the International Organisation of Journalists (IOJ) whose headquarters is in Prague. Announcing the decision on 21 August, the Czech Government accused the IOJ of aligning itself with the fallen communist regime in that Eastern European country. The IOJ had operated from its headquarters in Prague since its inception 45 years ago.

In a fax message to Langos Tuesday, the ZUJ said it was dismayed at news of the organisation's expulsion and that it was unfair to say the IOJ had aligned itself with the overthrown communist party.

"The IOJ at its 11th congress in Harare clearly came out with a blueprint to transform its philosophy and operations," said the ZUJ message, adding that it now operated as a fully democratic and professional organisation which has no wish or purpose to align itself with the former regime.

"Based on this, the ZUJ, a properly constituted affiliate of the IOJ, seeks a reversal of this decision from your government," the statement said.

Zambian Border To Close for Commonwealth Summit

MB1809144491 Johannesburg *Radio RSA* in English
1100 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] It is reported from Harare that Zimbabwe will close its borders to ordinary visitors from Zambia during next month's Commonwealth summit meeting in Harare. A Zambian official said the move by Zimbabwe and Zambia to scale down on the number of people crossing the border was aimed at removing any possibility of embarrassment to the two countries during the summit meeting. The official did not elaborate on the sort of embarrassment likely to be caused. Reports from the Zimbabwean border town of Victoria Falls where the Commonwealth leaders will hold their weekend retreat said that many Zambian women have been crossing over to buy goods not available in Zambia.

Benin

Minister on 'Misunderstanding' in Workers' Strike

AB1809214191 Cotonou Office de Radiodiffusion-
Television du Benin Radio Network in French 1930
GMT 17 Sep 91

[Excerpt] The strike embarked upon by the Federation of Unions of Public Service Workers entered its second day today. The administrative machinery has been paralyzed in the sectors that are taking part in the industrial action. For the government, this strike should not have taken place. We did everything possible to avert it, stated Antoine Alabi Gbegan, minister of civil service and administrative reform. He finds the workers' various demands quite hard to meet and, furthermore, deplors the misunderstanding which developed between the unions and the government.

[Begin Gbegan recording] The point where there was misunderstanding was [changes thought].... First, the government acknowledged that it owed the workers because the state is a continuity. As in any kind of situation in which money is owed, the debtor and the creditor need to sit down and work out the modalities for settling the debt. I think it was in modalities for settling the state's debt to the workers that there was a misunderstanding, (?but there is still room for dialogue). We will continue to hold discussions with the federation, but I would like to stress the following: Each and every citizen of this country must understand that we are going through very hard times and that the government cannot do everything at once. This is where, perhaps, we do not understand each other. Unless we give up our sovereignty, the fact, at any rate, is that our partners do not agree to invest in salaries in the country. [sentence as heard] [passage omitted] [end recording]

Liberia

Sawyer Returns, 'Pleased' With Summit Results

AB1809181291 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English
0900 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Interim President Dr. Amos Sawyer and party arrived in Monrovia last evening after attending a two-day meeting on peace in Liberia in Yamoussoukro, the Ivory Coast. Speaking to the LIBERIAN NEWS AGENCY immediately upon his arrival at the James Spriggs Payne airfield, Dr. Sawyer said he was pleased with the results of the Yamoussoukro meeting and pledged his commitment to attaining progress in the terms agreed to.

He said though a definite timetable was not set for the opening of roads and encampment and disarming of all the warring groups, he is encouraged by the agreement reached to carry out the exercise as soon as possible. The president said he was particularly happy that agreement was reached on an expanding of ECOMOG [Economic

Community of West African States, ECOWAS, Cease-Fire Monitoring Group], the setting up of an elections commission to organize and supervise elections, and an ad hoc supreme court to adjudicate dispute arising from the electoral process.

The third meeting of the ECOWAS committee of five on the Liberian crisis was attended by 11 heads of states and representatives, including President Abdou Diouf, who is the current chairman of ECOWAS; Presidents Sir Dawda Jawara of The Gambia; Joao Bernardo Vieira of Guinea-Bissau; and Amadou Toumani Toure of Mali. Also present at the meeting were President Blaise Compaore of Burkina Faso; the vice president of Nigeria, Augustus Aikhomu; Kokou Koffigoh, prime minister of Togo; and the deputy foreign secretary of Ghana, Mohamed ibn Chambas.

Interpretation of Yamoussoukro Accord Begins

AB1809160091 Paris AFP in English 1258 GMT
18 Sep 91

[By Richard Nyberg]

[Text] Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast, Sept 18 (AFP)—While regional peacemakers celebrate Liberian rebel leader Charles Taylor's apparent willingness to disarm and encamp his troops, several sticky questions remain, namely who will keep the guns under lock and key. Taylor gave Liberians a glimmer of hope of ending its 21-month civil war Tuesday by agreeing at a summit of West African leaders here to lay down his arms to an enlarged peacekeeping force, known as ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group], which until now has been led and dominated by Nigeria.

Under the agreement, Liberian warring factions had agreed to encamp their troops "in designated locations" and deposit arms and ammunition in "appropriate armories also under the supervision of ECOMOG," a final communique from the two-day meeting said. But questions have already emerged over "practical modalities" of the disarming process, which the communique said still needed to be worked out.

Taylor spokesmen have already started making their own interpretation of the accord, as was the case in a similar agreement to encamp and disarm troops last February which cast months of ECOWAS peace efforts into deadlock.

"We will pursue an 'armed-room policy'" of disarmament, Joe Mulbah, spokesman for Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL), told AFP.

Under Taylor's proposed plan, the enlarged ECOMOG force and NPFL representatives are to supervise the arms arsenal which is to be located inside the encampment areas. "They (ECOMOG) have one key, we have one key," he said, adding: "We are not going to submit our arms to ECOMOG."

The arrangement was necessary to avoid having the guns smuggled into the bush where they could be used for armed robbery and ambushes, Mulbah said, adding that any disarmament deal could only be worked out with a reconstituted ECOMOG.

But Bacchus Matthews, foreign minister in the Monrovia-based interim government headed by Amos Sawyer, said ECOMOG "will be supervising" the armories alone. "I'd like to stick with the language" in the communique, he added. He said Taylor had made concessions for agreeing to disarm his force, which controls virtually all of the war-torn country outside the capital Monrovia.

Senegal's decision to deploy troops to the 7,000-strong force—with Washington supplying much of the cash—has, at least for the moment, apparently appeased the rebel leader.

Taylor, who met Nigerian Vice President Augustus Aikhomu late Monday, still wanted Nigeria to cut back its number of troops to the force sent by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in August 1990.

According to NPFL foreign affairs spokesman Ernest Eastman, discussions about the number of troops to be sent by Senegal and how many Nigerians should leave Liberia was going on at "quiet, diplomatic levels" so Nigeria and Taylor would not "lose face."

Nigerian and ECOMOG sources have no indication that Nigeria was prepared to withdraw some of its troops from the force which also comprises soldiers from Ghana, Guinea, Sierra Leone and The Gambia.

Eastman said the mini-summit of 10 West African countries here hosted by Ivorian President Felix Houphouet-Boigny was "gratifying" because his group and Liberia's interim government had both "yielded ground."

Other issues left unsettled by the meeting include a timetable for democratic elections and the prevention of clashes at Liberia's borders with Sierra Leone and Guinea. A five-nation committee was set up to dissuade refugee forces from further attacks on Taylor's NPFL.

Dayle Spencer of former U.S. president Jimmy Carter's International Negotiation Network (INN) said that elections organized and monitored by her group along with ECOWAS should be held before the rainy season starts in May. She said the complete disarmament and encampment of the warring factions including Prince Johnson's breakaway rebel faction and remnants of the late president Samuel Doe's army was a prerequisite to setting up the polls.

ULIMO Rejects Yamoussoukro Peace Plan

AB1909114591 Paris AFP in English 0457 GMT
19 Sep 91

[Text] Freetown, Sep 19 (AFP)—The United Liberation Movement of Liberians for Democracy (ULIMO), composed of exiled Liberians in Sierra Leone, on Wednesday rejected a new peace pact aimed at ending their country's 21-month civil war. A senior ULIMO official said the accord, announced at a summit of West African leaders in the Ivory Coast town of Yamoussoukro Tuesday, was biased and "prejudicial" to the interests of Liberia's neighbors, Sierra Leone and Guinea. He said that Sierra Leone, which had been in the "frontline" of armed attacks by Liberian rebels, was denied full delegate status at the Yamoussoukro meeting. He also said the meeting had taken sides with rebel leader Charles Taylor, by "confering him a status which was against the interest of all Liberians." And he charged that Ivory Coast was cooperating with Taylor, opening its borders to arms trafficking by Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) guerrillas. The ULIMO official predicted that the Yamoussoukro meeting would only served to have stalled fighting momentarily.

Taylor's NPFL, which under the new agreement agreed to disarm along with other rebel factions, has accused armed Liberian exiles in Sierra Leone of trying to invade Liberia but has claimed to have pushed back those attempts.

Commentary on Renewed Fighting, External Influence

AB1909105591 Gbarnga Radio ELBC in English
1900 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Goz Gyeplo and Anthony Tubman commentary]

[Text] The fresh outbreak of armed struggle masterminded by some armed bandits in the country recently has sparked off dozens of serious questions from careful observers of the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia]-led popular people's uprising. From one school of thought, it is widely [word indistinct] that the renewed fighting which started a little over a week ago seeks to (?eviscerate) old wounds based on conflict of class, sex, tribe, religion, parties, or individuals.

Another thought sees the political system in Monrovia as a product of the struggle for power by instruments run by external hands under the disguise of democracy. Those power-greedy agents who have imposed themselves on the people just to satisfy the whims of their external masters are clearly and smartly aware, as a special secret of hope, that by breaking the backbone of Yamoussoukro III, the last bridge over troubled waters, the people will be discouraged to defend their rights, true independence, real freedom, thus accepting the political conflict as a visa to submit the bloodthirsty clique as winners. You

see, this shows that in actual fact, dictatorship is established under the cover of false democracy. This is the reality of political stalemate presently prevailing in the country.

The stooges of the external godfathers, who are known as the last batch of [word indistinct] on the imperialist bandwagon, used in a plague of patriotism and popularity war as the only bitter pill of justification to squeeze in the people's already wounded (?throats). But [it is] sad to note that things of those days are no more. The people have started to realize who are those bent on (?slipping) the peace process into a (?backward) situation. This is why they have concretely condemned the recent invasion of the country by people professing to be the noble sons of the land. The warlords are being asked to take a look in the mirror of frustration. I wonder [word indistinct]: When will they ever learn? Despite the work of the clique to thwart the atmosphere of peace process, the [word indistinct] will overcome the urge to wage war.

Mali

Head of State on Sending Troops to ECOMOG

AB1809184091 Bamako Radiodiffusion-Television
du Mali Radio in French 0700 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Excerpts] Yesterday afternoon the chairman of the Transitional Committee for the Salvation of the People [CTSP], Lieutenant Colonel Amadou Toumani Toure, returned to Bamako from Yamoussoukro. In the Ivorian administrative capital, the head of state took part in the third summit on Liberia. The CTSP chairman briefed our special correspondent, Omar Toure, on the outcome of this summit.

[Begin recording] [Chairman Toure] I think before looking into the outcome of the summit on Liberia and the positive results expected by the whole subregion, I would like, as usual, to thank President Felix Houphouet-Boigny and the Ivorian people for the warm and fraternal reception, their invitation to take part in the summit, and the free means of transport put at our disposal. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent Toure] Mr. Chairman, concerning the restructuring of the ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group], does Mali intend to send any troops to Liberia?

[Chairman Toure] As you know, Mali has already sent some troops. We may not call them troops as people would like to. We have officers of the Army command who are integrated in the ECOMOG high command and whose good work is appreciated, but in the coming days we will study the situation first in Mali to see what we can do. Whatever Mali's difficulties, we will take it upon ourselves to take part in restoring peace to our subregion. [end recording]

Nigeria

Vice President Receives Taylor at Minisummit

AB1809181091 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network
in English 2100 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Excerpts] An electoral commission of five members has been constituted in Liberia. They include members of the interim government in Liberia and that of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia, NPFL.

This is contained in a communique issued today at the end of the second meeting of the committee of five ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] countries on the Liberian crisis, hosted by the Ivorian president, Mr. Felix Houphouet-Boigny, in his home town Yamoussoukro. Nigeria was represented at the minisummit by the vice president, Admiral Augustus Aikhomu. [passage omitted]

The vice president, Admiral Augustus Aikhomu, held a closed door meeting with the leader of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia, Mr. Charles Taylor, on the peace initiative. In an interview with Mr. Taylor after the meeting, he gave an assurance that his troops would abide by the terms of the agreement for a lasting peace in Liberia. He expressed his confidence in Nigeria and other African countries as according to the peace initiatives.

The vice president also held similar discussions with the Togolese [Prime Minister] Kokou Koffigoh; the president of Burkina Faso, Mr. Blaise Compaore; and Mr. Amadou Toure of Mali.

The Togolese prime minister briefed the vice president about the political situation in his country and also wished to give a similar briefing to President Ibrahim Babangida. He promised not to do anything that would harm President Eyadema of Togo.

Admiral Aikhomu told the Togolese prime minister that since he had the mandate of his people, Nigeria would continue to maintain cordial ties with his country.

Document Calls for Krahn Refugee Mobilization

AB1809192091 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 17 Sep 91

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Already a lot has been heard about the supporters of the late Liberian president, Samuel Doe, and his Krahn tribe trying to make comebacks in this home region in Liberia and in the ULIMO [United Liberation Movement of Liberia for Democracy] movement from neighboring Sierra Leone, but it seems they are also active in Nigerian refugee camps much to the displeasure, it seems, of the Nigerian authorities. From Lagos Sola Odunfa telexed this report.

[Begin studio announcer recording] Government officials in Nigeria have started investigations to determine the authors of a document circulating widely in Nigeria which calls for the formation of a militant Krahn Consciousness Movement, KRACOMO, among Liberian refugees in the country.

The Liberian ambassador to Nigeria, Mr. Dueh Chieh, yesterday visited the refugees in their camp to denounce the document. He described it as a national scandal capable of provoking the Nigerian Government to change its generous disposition to the refugees.

The mysterious document, distributed by post to several media houses in Lagos over the past two weeks, calls on the Krahn people in exile in Nigeria to rise above their baseless fears and unite to solve their common problems by whatever means necessary.

The document traced the Liberian crisis to the April 1980 coup, led by the late President Doe, which, it said, ended the rule of American Liberians who had, and I quote, enslaved the indigenous people for more than 133 years.

It said that the current civil war was a result of the determination of the American-Liberians to regain power and reimpose the age-old minority rule of the past on the majority.

The document concluded that since the Krahn and other indigenous people were still being killed like ants by Charles Taylor's forces, the Krahn refugees must not feel safe or hide their ethnic identity in exile but must unite to free their villages, towns, and tribal territories from the grip of rebels.

As a result of the document, Nigerian security officials have moved into the refugee camp to prevent ethnic violence among the Liberians. Movement in and out of the camp has also been restricted. There are nearly 1,000 Liberians of various ethnic origins in the camp.

In an address during the visit to the camp yesterday, the Liberian ambassador told the refugees to find the authors of the document and make them publish a retraction as soon as possible. He said that if this was not done, all Krahn people in the camp will be held responsible for it.

Replying, the leader of the camp, Mr. Roger Niles, admitted that the document had originated from the camp but he said that it did not represent the views of all the refugees. He promised to take what he described as punitive measures to ensure that such publications were not repeated. [end recording]

Liberian Envoy Gives 'Stern Warning' to Krahns

*AB1809211591 Gbarnga Radio ELBC in English
2000 GMT 17 Sep 91*

[Text] The Liberian ambassador accredited to Nigeria, Mr. Due Chieh, has sounded a stern warning to the Krahn tribe residing in the largest refugee camp in Nigeria to desist from acts which could tend to undermine the ongoing peace talks in the Ivory Coast. Ambassador Chie said the Krahn ethnic group in the camp will be held responsible if the present peace talks is derailed, as they have already shown their violent position to launch war.

Mr. Chie was reacting today to a document which circulated in the camp calling on all Krahns to rebel against the popular people's uprising in Liberia headed by chairman Charles Gankay Taylor of the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia].

When contacted, the leader of the camp said the document did not represent the views of the entire population of the camp and should not be taken seriously. He assured the ambassador, who visited the camp, that everything will be done to avoid another bloody warfare based on (?Krahns).

Government Welcomes South Africa-Inkatha Accord

*AB1809201591 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network
in English 2100 GMT 17 Sep 91*

[Text] Nigeria has welcomed the peace accord signed by the president of South Africa, Mr. F.W. de Klerk, and the leader of the Inkatha Movement, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi. In a statement issued this evening at Dodan Barracks, Federal Government said the accord would go a long way to guarantee security of life and property, which is the prerequisite for a meaningful debate on the political future of South Africa.

The statement expressed the hope that the accord would be faithfully implemented. Nigeria, according to the statement, believed that now was the time for the leadership of all the parties to make extra efforts to design a democratic constitutional framework to pave way for unfettered political freedom as well as equal social and economic rights.

The Federal Government called on the other groups who have yet to sign the peace accord to demonstrate the courage and exemplary leadership by endorsing the accord for the continued peace and racial harmony in South Africa.

END OF

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DATE FILMED

30 Sept. 1991

